



East and west elevations of Heber Tabernacle

THESE DRAWINGS, WITH the associated photographs and data books will become part of the collection of the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C.

Twenty-three of the one hundred and three drawings prepared this summer are of the Heber Town Square buildings.

The Heber Town Square was particularly selected for this survey because of its unique historical and architectural significance in America.

Mr. Paul Goeldner, the Project Supervisor of the Historic American Buildings Survey, Utah Project, 1967, made the following statement on the Heber Town Square as these drawings were completed.

"WHEN, AFTER A LONG and arduous journey, Brigham Young said, "This is the place," he was concerned about the uniqueness of his opportunity to create a better environment rather than a duplicate of what he left behind.

"Without narrowly limiting national borders, Americans have always been free to move. Sometimes they have been challenged by new frontiers but in other cases they have sought escape from their own folly which exhausted the soil, polluted the water, poisoned the air and corroded their human relationships.

"A DIFFICULTY IN OUR own time is that the farther and faster we move, the more every place becomes like every other place and our restless searching leads to increasing disappointment.

"The wanderer finds a promise of something better in the Heber Valley and the tourist is tempted to linger, not only because of the impressive natural setting but because of the beauty and character of the late nineteenth century architecture; the red brick houses of Midway with their lacy white bargeboards and the unique integrity of the Heber City town square.

"UNLIKE THEIR predecessors of 1924 who were anxious to preserve the architectural character of the town square when they built the annex at the rear of the courthouse, present leadership has proposed a new courthouse of a design and placement which would drastically change this character and, unfortunately, make Heber City more monotonously like every other small American town, in which travelers see no reason to slow down or open their wallets.

"It has been suggested that those who want to preserve the square are meddlesome outsiders. Perhaps they are. Perhaps it is foolish to expect Wasatch County to value its heritage more than hundreds of other communities who now lament the loss of something which made them unique and could have kept them proud. While the trees and buildings remain, there is still hope that the Heber Valley can show itself better and wiser than other places, not only in saving but in using its square.

"BECAUSE THIS CONCERN for America's heritage is more